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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I know, Sir, why the Government propose to exclude the appointments of panchayat officers from the list of posts to be recruited by the Public Services Commission?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" It is not quite clear, Sir. The answer clearly states that the Public Services Commission is intended to deal only with Government services."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" When the Government have taken power from the district boards to do justice, thinking that the local board presidents would not do what they could do in the interests of public, why should Government take the responsibility of appointing panchayat officers and not get the thing done by the Public Services Commission to avoid unnecessary odium?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I have already stated that it is not a matter for the Commission."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I know, Sir, whether there are any proposals now before the Government to provincialize these services and, if there is such a proposal, will the Government consider the desirability of making the Public Services Commission recruit the candidates instead of themselves doing the odious task?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" At present, Sir, they are under the local board services. Ultimately, it may be possible to class them with the Provincial Services. Then, as a matter of course, the Public Services Commission will make the recruitment."

Qualifications of District Panchayat Officers appointed by the Government.

* 569 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the names and addresses are of persons who have been appointed by the Government as district panchayat officers so far;

(*b*) to which district each of such persons has been appointed;

(*c*) what the educational as well as technical qualifications of each is; and

(*d*) what the pay drawn by each is and in which scale?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) A statement [a] is appended.

(*d*) A fixed salary of Rs. 150 per mensem for the present.

Continuance in office of District Panchayat Officers appointed by Presidents of District Boards.

* 570 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many districts district panchayat officers have been appointed by the Government;

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 304 infra.

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(*b*) in which district or districts persons appointed by the president, district board, still continue in office as district panchayat officers; and

(*c*) what the Government's reasons are in each case for allowing the officers appointed by the presidents of district boards to continue in office still, and what the qualifications of each of such officers are?

A.—(*a*) Government have so far appointed district panchayat officers for twenty-two districts. Appointments for the remaining three districts, viz., Nellore, the Nilgiris and Tinnevelly, will be made in due course.

(*b*) The district panchayat officers appointed by Government in Anantapur, North Arcot, Coimbatore, Ganjam, Madura, Ramnad, Tanjore, Vizagapatam and South Kanara, are persons who were appointed as district panchayat officers by one president, district board or another, before Government took power to control the service of district panchayat officers and the officers first appointed by the presidents, district board, in North Arcot, Coimbatore, Madura and Vizagapatam are continuing in the same districts;

(*c*) Government made the appointments and postings of the officers with due regard to administrative exigencies and efficiency. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement appended to the answer to his starred question No. 569 which contains the particulars in regard to the qualifications of the officers.

Educational qualifications of the District Panchayat Officer, Salem.

* 571 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether district panchayat officers have been appointed by the Government to all the districts;

(*b*) if not, how many districts have yet to be filled by persons to be entertained by the Government;

(*c*) when Salem district is likely to have such an one;

(*d*) who the present district panchayat officer at Salem is;

(*e*) what his educational as well as technical qualifications are;

(*f*) whether exemption from educational qualifications has been granted to him; if so, from which date to which date;

(*g*) whether it is on account of the dearth of candidates that such exemption has been granted to him; and

(*h*) what the qualifications generally prescribed are for district panchayat officers?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*a*) of his starred question No. •570;